

Senate Engrossed House Bill

**FILED**

**JANICE K. BREWER  
SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2008

CHAPTER 202

# **HOUSE BILL 2008**

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING.  
SECTION 15-701.02; RELATING TO SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 7, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
3 is amended by adding section 15-701.02, to read:

4 15-701.02. Alternative high school graduation requirement;  
5 definition

6 A. NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 15-701.01, A PUPIL WHO FAILS TO ACHIEVE A  
7 PASSING SCORE ON A COMPETENCY TEST REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL  
8 MAY GRADUATE IF THE PUPIL MEETS THE ALTERNATIVE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
9 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

10 B. A PUPIL IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ALTERNATIVE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
11 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IF ALL OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

12 1. THE PUPIL HAS TAKEN THE COMPETENCY TEST EACH TIME THE TEST WAS  
13 OFFERED WHEN THE PUPIL WAS ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE TEST.

14 2. THE PUPIL HAS COMPLETED WITH A PASSING GRADE ALL COURSEWORK AND  
15 CREDITS PRESCRIBED FOR THE GRADUATION OF PUPILS FROM HIGH SCHOOL BY THE  
16 GOVERNING BOARD OF THE PUPIL'S SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-701.01.

17 3. THE PUPIL HAS PARTICIPATED IN ANY ACADEMIC REMEDIATION PROGRAMS  
18 AVAILABLE IN THE PUPIL'S SCHOOL IN THOSE SUBJECT AREAS WHERE THE PUPIL FAILED  
19 TO ACHIEVE A PASSING SCORE ON THE COMPETENCY TEST.

20 C. PUPILS WHO FAIL TO ACHIEVE A PASSING SCORE ON A COMPETENCY TEST  
21 REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL MAY AUGMENT THE SCORE WITH  
22 ADDITIONAL CREDIT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION. A PUPIL SHALL  
23 AUGMENT THE SCORE OF EACH AREA WHERE THE PUPIL FAILED TO ACHIEVE A PASSING  
24 SCORE SEPARATELY AND CONCURRENTLY IN AN AMOUNT PRESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION.  
25 FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, A PUPIL MAY USE THE HIGHEST ACHIEVED SCORE  
26 IN EACH AREA OF ANY TIME THE COMPETENCY TEST WAS TAKEN. THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT  
27 THAT A PUPIL MAY AUGMENT THE SCORE OF EACH AREA WHERE THE PUPIL FAILED TO  
28 ACHIEVE A PASSING SCORE SEPARATELY AND CONCURRENTLY IS AS FOLLOWS:

29 1. IN THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR AND IN THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR, AN  
30 AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT OF THE PUPIL'S ACHIEVED SCORE IN  
31 EACH AREA.

32 2. IN THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR, AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTEEN PER  
33 CENT OF THE PUPIL'S ACHIEVED SCORE IN EACH AREA.

34 3. IN THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR AND IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR THEREAFTER, AN  
35 AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE PER CENT OF THE PUPIL'S ACHIEVED SCORE IN EACH  
36 AREA.

37 D. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE AUGMENTING OF  
38 COMPETENCY TEST SCORES OF PUPILS WHO FAIL TO ACHIEVE A PASSING SCORE ON THE  
39 COMPETENCY TEST REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL. THE BOARD, BY  
40 RULE, SHALL ESTABLISH THE MANNER THAT ADDITIONAL CREDIT MAY BE USED TO  
41 AUGMENT THE SCORE OF THE PUPIL. THE BOARD SHALL USE THE AUGMENTED SCORES  
42 ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING WHETHER THE PUPIL MEETS THE ALTERNATIVE  
43 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. IF THE  
44 AUGMENTED SCORE OF THE PUPIL EXCEEDS THE PASSING SCORE ON THE COMPETENCY

1 TEST, THE PUPIL SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE PASSED THE COMPETENCY TEST IN  
2 THAT AREA FOR GRADUATION PURPOSES.

3 E. ADDITIONAL CREDITS APPLIED TO THE PUPIL'S SCORE PURSUANT TO  
4 SUBSECTIONS C AND D OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE BASED ONLY ON THE PERFORMANCE OF  
5 THE PUPIL IN THOSE COURSES THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION  
6 ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-203,  
7 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 13. EACH COURSE THAT RECEIVES ADDITIONAL CREDIT  
8 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL RECEIVE EQUIVALENT ADDITIONAL CREDIT  
9 REGARDLESS OF SUBJECT AREA, EXCEPT THAT GREATER ADDITIONAL CREDIT SHALL BE  
10 GRANTED FOR COURSES WITH MORE ADVANCED ACADEMIC CONTENT RELATED TO THE  
11 ACADEMIC STANDARDS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO  
12 SECTION 15-701.01.

13 F. IN ESTABLISHING ITS RULES REGARDING ADDITIONAL CREDIT FOR SPECIFIC  
14 PERFORMANCE IN COURSES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS C, D AND E OF THIS SECTION,  
15 THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE VARYING AMOUNTS OF ADDITIONAL  
16 CREDIT FOR EACH PERFORMANCE LEVEL ACHIEVED IN THE COURSE AS FOLLOWS:

17 1. A GRADE OF A OR ITS EQUIVALENT SHALL BE PROPORTIONALLY HIGHER THAN  
18 A GRADE OF B OR ITS EQUIVALENT.

19 2. A GRADE OF B OR ITS EQUIVALENT SHALL BE PROPORTIONALLY HIGHER THAN  
20 A GRADE OF C OR ITS EQUIVALENT.

21 3. GRADES LOWER THAN C OR ITS EQUIVALENT SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR  
22 ADDITIONAL CREDIT.

23 G. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "COMPETENCY TEST" MEANS A  
24 COMPETENCY TEST REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION OF A PUPIL FROM HIGH SCHOOL  
25 ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-701.01,  
26 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 3.

27 Sec. 2. Retroactivity

28 Section 15-701.02, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, is  
29 effective retroactively to from and after December 31, 2007.

30 Sec. 3. Emergency

31 This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the  
32 public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by  
33 law.

EMERGENCY  
NOT ENACTED

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MAY 15, 2008.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY 15, 2008.